

Fisheries and Wildlife Management

The Fisheries and Wildlife Management program is designed to train students in both theoretical and applied aspects of fisheries and wildlife management.

This major is appropriate for those interested in natural resources management careers in state, federal or tribal agencies, non-profit organizations, industry or academia. Students may specialize in either fisheries or wildlife and will gain a strong background in biology.

Skills and Competencies

The Fisheries and Wildlife Management major at NMU is a diverse program that will give you the opportunity to master many skills and gain competencies in a variety of fields— provided you exert the necessary effort and time. Strong mathematics skills are required, so be sure that your math and analytical skills are strong before entering this field. Writing skills— absolutely necessary in any career field today— are developed through technical lab reports and research assignments. Reading skills are strengthened in order to improve your ability to analyze texts and interpret data. Critical thinking, analysis, and research skills are all developed through projects and course work. Laboratory or field research may also be available if you have the necessary skills and experience.

Course Work

This degree includes the following courses as part of the program requirements, and specific major requirements along with general education courses and graduation requirements.

Biology Core

- BI 111 Introductory Biology: Principles (4 cr.)
- BI 112 Introductory Biology: Diversity (4 cr.)
- BI 210 Principles of Ecology (4 cr.)
- BI 215 Principles of Evolution (4 cr.)
- BI 290 Fisheries and Wildlife Seminar (1 cr.)
- BI 327 Animal Physiology (4 cr.)
- BI 333 Genetics for Natural Resources or BI 218 Intro. to Cell & Molecular Biology (4 cr.) & BI 312 Genetics (4 cr.)
- BI 441 Fisheries Management (4 cr.)
- BI 442 Wildlife Management (4 cr.)
- BI 489 Graduate Assessment for Biology (0 cr.)

- Physical Science Cluster (8 cr.)
- Communication Cluster (4 cr.)
- Human Dimensions Cluster (8 cr.)

Other Required Courses

- CH 111 General Chemistry I (5 cr.)
- CH 112 General Chemistry II (5 cr.)
- MA 109 Intro. Probability and Statistics (4 cr.)

Track (24 cr.)

- Enforcement
- Fisheries
- Wildlife

Detailed course descriptions can be found at www.nmu.edu/bulletin.

Career Development

You should begin the resume-building process as soon as you can. The Academic and Career Advisement Center can assist you with career planning, while Career Services will help you fine tune your resume and look for jobs related to your field. In the meantime, the more hands-on experience you have, the better the chances are that you will find a job. Becoming involved in a professional related internship is a way to develop your professional skills and gain experience. Your academic course work is important as well, so be sure to maintain a high grade point average.

Additional Considerations

Completing the major will result in meeting the academic requirements for certification as a Wildlife Biologist by the The Wildlife Society, or as a Fisheries Biologist by the American Fisheries Society.

Job Outlook

Some professions within the Biology field are expected to grow faster than others. Refer to the U.S. Bureau of Labor's Occupational Outlook Handbook (website on back) for more information. Median salaries range from \$55,000 to \$75,000. However, some jobs in this area are seasonal and will provide lower pay.

Potential Careers

NMU's Fisheries and Wildlife Management Program prepares students for employment in the following careers:

- Aquaculturist
- Aquarist
- Conservation/ Enforcement Officer
- Ecologist
- Fish Biologist
- Fisheries Scientist
- Fisheries Consultant
- Game Keeper
- Natural Resources Manager
- Natural Resources Outreach Officer
- Park Naturalist
- Park Ranger
- Refuge Manager
- Wildlife Manager
- Wildlife Biologist
- Wildlife Inspector
- Wildlife Technician
- Wildlife Consultant
- Zookeeper

Additional Resources and Information

For Career Planning and Opportunities:
Academic & Career Advisement Center
3302.1 C.B. Hedgcock
906-227-2971
103 Jacobetti Complex
906-227-2283
www.nmu.edu/acac

Biology Department
2001 New Science Facility
906-227-2310
www.nmu.edu/biology

For Job Search, Resume and Career Information:
Career Services
3302.3 C.B. Hedgcock
906-227-2800
www.nmu.edu/careers

For Information about NMU Student Organizations Associated with this Major Contact:
Center for Student Enrichment
1206 University Center
906-227-2439
www.nmu.edu/cse

Fisheries & Wildlife Association

Internet Resource Links:
www.careers.org
www.bls.gov

For Career Information with National Organizations:
www.obfs.org -Org. of Biological Field Stations
www.fws.gov -U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
www.fisheries.org -American Fisheries Society
www.wildlife.org -The Wildlife Society



**NORTHERN MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY**

The Academic & Career Advisement Center
2021



What to do with
a major in...

Fisheries and Wildlife Management

